

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 BONN 14608 01 OF 03 101918Z
ACTION EUR-08

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 H-01 INR-05
L-01 NSC-05 SP-02 EB-04 HA-02 PA-01 TRSE-00 /044 W
-----031140 102112Z /13

R 101741Z AUG 78
FM AMEMBASSY BONN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1001
INFO USMISSION USBERLIN
AMEMBASSY BERLIN
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY PARIS
USMISSION USNATO

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 03 BONN 14608

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1
TAGS: PGOV BQG
SUBJECT: INNER-GERMAN RELATIONS: REPORT ON
AUGUST 3 FRG/GDR NEGOTIATING ROUND

REF: BONN 12835

SUMMARY. THE FRG/GDR NEGOTIATIONS ON THE NORTHERN
AUTOBAHN, TRANSIT WATERWAYS, THE TELTOW CANAL, AND
OTHER SUBJECTS RESUMED ON AUGUST 3. THE FRG REP
REPORTED THE FRG POSITION DECIDED LAST MONTH AND THE
GDR REP EMPHASIZED THE POLITICAL IMPORTANCE OF THE
NEGOTIATIONS, ALSO FOR THE FRG IN ITS DESIRE TO DO
SOMETHING FOR WEST BERLIN. NEGOTIATIONS CONTINUE ON
AUGUST 10. END SUMMARY.

1. AT THE AUGUST 9 BONN GROUP MEETING, THE FRG REP
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 BONN 14608 01 OF 03 101918Z

(VON BRAUNMUEHL) REPORTED ON THE GAUS/NIER MEETING OF
AUGUST 3, 1978. AS PREVIOUSLY REPORTED, THE ACTUAL
NEGOTIATIONS TAKE PLACE BETWEEN GAUS AND SCHALK AND THE
SUBSTANCE IS CONFIRMED AT THE GAUS/NIER MEETING. VON
BRAUNMUEHL EMPHASIZED AGAIN THE EXTREME SENSITIVITY OF
THE REPORTS GIVEN THE BONN GROUP AND SAID THAT IN THE
FOREIGN OFFICE, ONLY THE MINISTER, STATE SECRETARY VAN

WELL AND THE BERLIN/INNER-GERMAN OFFICE ARE INFORMED OF THEIR CONTENT.

2. HE SAID THAT GAUS PRESENTED THE FRG POSITION AS IT HAD BEEN DEVELOPED AFTER THE MEETING WITH THE CHANCELLOR ON JULY 11 (REFTEL). HE SAID THE FOLLOWING WERE THE POINTS COVERED BY GAUS.

3. NORTH AUTOBAHN (BERLIN/HAMBURG): THE CONNECTION AT HEILIGENSEE IN WEST BERLIN IS "NECESSARY" FOR THE FRG. THE STAKKEN/HORST CONTROL POINTS MUST BE MAINTAINED FOR VISITOR TRAFFIC AND TRANSIT TRAFFIC TO NON-FRG POINTS. THE F-5 TRANSIT ROUTE TO HAMBURG MUST BE MAINTAINED. VON BRAUNMUEHL SAID THIS LAST REQUEST WAS REJECTED OUT OF HAND BY SCHALK.

4. GAUS SAID THE FRG IS READY TO NEGOTIATE WITH THE GDR ON THE BASIS OF THE MORE NORTHERLY OF THE TWO POSSIBLE BERLIN-HAMBURG AUTOBAHN ROUTES, PROVIDED THIS IS CONNECTED WITH A DECLARATION OF INTENT TO NEGOTIATE IN 1980 FOR A SPUR TO LOWER SAXONY. GAUS SAID THAT IT MUST BE MADE CLEAR IN A "BINDING MANNER" THAT THE NORTHERN AUTOBAHN IS A TRANSIT ROUTE IN THE SENSE OF THE TTA. HE SAID THE FRG ASSUMES THAT FOUR YEARS WILL BE REQUIRED TO BUILD THE AUTOBAHN AND REJECTED THE GDR PROPOSALS FOR AN FRG CONTRIBUTION TO THE COST OF THE CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 BONN 14608 01 OF 03 101918Z

ALREADY-EXISTING BERLIN/WITTSTOCK PORTION OF THE NORTHERN AUTOBAHN.

5. WATERWAYS TO BERLIN. GAUS SAID THAT THE FRG WOULD BE PREPARED TO NEGOTIATE IN THE IMMEDIATE FUTURE ONLY ABOUT THE MOST IMPORTANT REPAIRS, ESTIMATED TO COST SOME 90 MILLION MARKS. HOWEVER, THE FRG IS PREPARED TO AGREE TO A DECLARATION OF INTENT THAT, AFTER 1980, THE FRG WOULD NEGOTIATE ON A LONG-TERM BASIC RECONSTRUCTION OF THE WATERWAYS.

6. TELTOW CANAL. GAUS REJECTED THE GDR PROPOSAL FOR A FORMAL LINKAGE OF THE TELTOW CANAL NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE NEGOTIATIONS ON THE WATERWAYS. THE G MADE A COUNTER-OFFER OF 70 MILLION MARKS IN RESPONSE TO THE GDR DEMAND OF 90 MILLION MARKS FOR THE TELTOW CANAL WORK. GAUS SAID THAT IT MUST BE CLARIFIED WHICH SIDE IS TO CARRY OUT WHICH PART OF THE RECONSTRUCTION WITH REGARD TO THE VARIOUS PARTS OF THE CANAL. THE TECHNICAL DATA SHOULD CORRESPOND TO THOSE USED FOR THE TRANSIT WATERWAYS THEMSELVES, E.G., THAT IT WOULD BE TWO METERS DEEP, ETC. VON BRAUNMUEHL SAID THE TRANSIT

REGIME WAS NOT MENTIONED IN CONNECTION WITH THE TELTOW

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 BONN 14608 02 OF 03 101915Z
ACTION EUR-08

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 H-01 INR-05
L-01 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 EB-04 TRSE-00 HA-02 /044 W
-----031103 102111Z /13

R 101741Z AUG 78
FM AMEMBASSY BONN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1002
INFO USMISSION USBERLIN
AMEMBASSY BERLIN
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY PARIS
USMISSION USNATO

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 02 OF 03 BONN 14608

LIMDIS

CANAL.

7. WARTA-HERLESHEUSEN AUTOBAHN STRETCH. GAUS SAID THAT SINCE THE GDR FINANCIAL EMAND FOR THE "GREAT SOLUTION" IS TOO HIGH, THE FRG IS PREPARED TO NEGOTIATE ONLY FOR THE SMALL SOLUTION. VON BRAUNMUEHL SAID THAT THE INTERNAL FRG POSITION IS THAT IT MIGHT BE PREPARED TO NEGOTIATE ON THE GREAT SOLUTION LATER ON IF THE TALKS ARE OTHERWISE SATISFACTORY IN OTHER AREAS.

8. NON-COMMERCIAL PAYMENTS. GAUS REAFFIRMED THE FRG DEMAND THAT THE GDR CONTRIBUTE HARD CURRENCY FOR THE PAYMENTS. NO SPECIFIC AMOUNT WAS MENTIONED.

9. LUMP SUM TRANSIT PAYMENT. GAUS SAID THE FRG HAS NO INTEREST IN AND SEES NO NEED FOR A LONG-TERM AGREEMENT. HE SAID THE FRG AND GDR SHOULD FIRST CARRY OUT THE OLD MANDATE FOR NEGOTIATIONS ON THIS SUBJECT,
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 BONN 14608 02 OF 03 101915Z

I.E., CLARIFY THE DIVERGENT METHODS OF COUNTING THE VOLUME OF TRAFFIC.

10. HUMANITARIAN QUESTIONS. GAUS SAID THE FEDERAL CHANCELLOR EXPECTED THERE WOULD BE FURTHER IMPROVEMENTS AND THAT THE FRG IS COUNTING ON THESE. THESE SHOULD INCLUDE A REDUCTION IN THE AGE LIMIT AT WHICH GDR PENSIONERS ARE ALLOWED TO GO TO THE WEST.

11. IN RESPONSE, SCHALK SAID THAT HE WAS SPEAKING ON A PERSONAL BASIS AND WHAT HE SAID WAS SUBJECT TO REPORTING TO HONECKER AND THE DECISIONS OF THE NEXT MEETING OF THE POLITBURO.

12. HE SAID THAT THE POLITICAL CHARACTER OF THE NEGOTIATIONS OFFERED BY THE GDR MEANS THAT THE HIGHEST POLITICAL LEVEL OF BOTH SIDES SHOULD BE GIVEN AN OPPORTUNITY TO DECIDE WHETHER THE PACKAGE AS A WHOLE IS ACCEPTABLE. IF IT IS ACCEPTABLE, THE DETAILS COULD BE DETERMINED LATER, BASED ON THE AGREEMENT IN PRINCIPLE. SCHALK SAID THERE IS A FUNDAMENTAL DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THESE NEGOTIATIONS AND NEGOTIATIONS WITH OTHER STATES. WEST BERLIN IS SITUATED WHERE IT IS. THE FRG SHOULD DETERMINE FOR ITSELF WHAT PRICE IT IS WORTH TO THE FRG TO OBTAIN CONSIDERABLE TRAFFIC IMPROVEMENTS FOR WEST BERLIN. THE MATERIAL BENEFITS WHICH THE GDR WILL GET FROM THE NEGOTIATIONS MUST NOT BE CIRCUMSCRIBED BY SOME SORT OF "MAGIC LIMIT." THE WHOLE MATTER MUST BE UNDERSTOOD AS A POLITICAL PROJECT FOR THE BENEFIT OF WEST BERLIN. FROM THE STANDPOINT OF THE GDR, HE SAID THERE ARE THREE MAIN CORNERSTONES.

13. THE FIRST OF THE CORNERSTONES IS THE NORTHERN
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 BONN 14608 02 OF 03 101915Z

AUTOBAHN AND THE CONNECTION AT HEILIGENSEE. HE ASKED WHAT THE CONNECTION AT HEILIGENSEE IS WORTH TO THE FRG. THE GDR HAS NOTHING TO GIVE AWAY. THE FRG MUST UNDERSTAND THAT THERE IS A POLITICAL PRICE TO BE PAID AND THAT THERE MUST BE A BALANCING OF INTERESTS BETWEEN THE INTERESTS OF WEST BERLIN AND THE WISHES OF THE GDR. IN RESPONSE TO A QUESTION, VON BRAUNMUEHL SAID THAT THE "POLITICAL PRICE" PROBABLY MEANS SOMETHING MORE THAN MONEY, E.G., PERHAPS GDR/SENAT NEGOTIATIONS ON THE CROSSING POINT ITSELF.

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 BONN 14608 03 OF 03 101909Z
ACTION EUR-08

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 H-01 L-01
INR-05 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 EB-04 TRSE-00 HA-02
/044 W
-----031008 102110Z /13

R 101741Z AUG 78
FM AMEMBASSY BONN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1003
INFO USMISSION USBERLIN
AMEMBASSY BERLIN
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY PARIS
USMISSION USNATO

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 03 OF 03 BONN 14608

LIMDIS

14. THE SECOND CORNERSTONE IS THE LUMP SUM TRANSIT PAYMENT. ON THIS SUBJECT, SOMETHING COULD BE FIXED ON A LONG-TERM BASIS, UP TO 1990. THIS IS OF FUNDAMENTAL IMPORTANCE TO THE GDR SINCE THE REVISION CLAUSE HAS NOT WORKED. IT IS A CONSTANT CAUSE OF CONFLICT AND THE SETTLEMENT OF THIS WOULD MAKE IT EASIER FOR THE GDR TO ADAPT ITS REQUIREMENTS TO THE PRICE TO BE PAID FOR THE NORTHERN AUTOBAHN.

15. REGARDING THE THIRD CORNERSTONE, THE WATERWAYS, HE SAID THIS IS OF GREAT INTEREST FOR THE GDR. THE GDR MIGHT BE ABLE TO AGREE TO THE SOLUTION PROPOSED BY THE FRG.

16. IN RESPONSE, GAUS REMINDED SCHALK THAT AN UNSUCCESSFUL END OF THE NEGOTIATIONS WOULD HAVE SEVERE
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 BONN 14608 03 OF 03 101909Z

DISADVANTAGES FOR BOTH SIDES. IF THERE WERE A
WORSENING OF RELATIONS, THERE WOULD BE SEVERE
REPERCUSSIONS ON THE GENERAL ATMOSPHERE IN EUROPE. THE
GDR IS NOT AT LIBERTY TO CONDUCT SUCH A COURSE AND BOTH
SIDES MUST FIND A COMPROMISE. THE TWO PARTIES AGREED TO
MEET AGAIN ON AUGUST 10.

17. VON BRAUNMUEHL SAID THAT HIS OWN ACTION WAS THAT
THIS WAS AN INTERESTING MEETING, ESPECIALLY BECAUSE THE
GDR MADE IT CLEAR THAT IT WISHES TO USE THE
NEGOTIATIONS FOR POLITICAL AS WELL AS ECONOMIC
RESULTS. HE ALSO NOTED THE GDR CLAIM THAT THE FRG ALSO
WISHES TO OBTAIN POLITICAL ADVANTAGES, E.G., AN INCREASE
IN THE TIES WITH WEST BERLIN. AS PURELY PERSONAL
SPECULATION, VON BRAUNMUEHL SAID THAT HE DOES NOT
BELIEVE THE GDR WILL PRESS FOR SOMETHING WHICH IS
TOTALLY UNACCEPTABLE, E.G., NEGOTIATIONS BETWEEN THE
GDR AND THE SENAT WITHOUT ANY FRG INVOLVEMENT.
MEEHAN

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: REPORTS, FOREIGN RELATIONS, TRANSPORTATION, NEGOTIATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 10 aug 1978
Decaption Date: 20 Mar 2014
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978BONN14608
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: X1
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780328-0163
Format: TEL
From: BONN
Handling Restrictions:
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780875/aaaacbf.tel
Line Count: 299
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 16b25b65-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: LIMDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 6
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: LIMDIS
Reference: 78 BONN 12835
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 20 may 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1772768
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: INNER-GERMAN RELATIONS: REPORT ON AUGUST 3 FRG/GDR NEGOTIATING ROUND
TAGS: PGOV, GE, GC, BQG
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/16b25b65-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014